

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

“The urgent need of the world is the wisdom that comes by revelation from the Lord. There will be no peace on earth, no final solution of man’s vexing problems until leaders and followers humble themselves to receive guidance from the heavens.”—JOHN A. WIDTSOE.

No. 52, Vol. 96

Thursday, December 27, 1934

Price One Penny

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

ELDER RUDGER CLAWSON

OF THE COUNCIL OF TWELVE

JOHN the Beloved, said: “This is life eternal that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.” There are some people in the world around us who contend that God is a being without body, parts or passions, and is incomprehensible. Truly such a God is incomprehensible.

The God of the Bible, that being whom the Latter-day Saints worship, it is evident, has a body, parts and passions, for in the beginning He said :

“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” And the record goes on to say that God did make man in His own image and after His likeness. It is disclosed in Holy Writ that Moses saw God and talked with him face to face. It is also recorded that Christ Jesus was in the express image of God His Father.

The attributes of God which in combination go to make His character are glorious to contemplate. The Lord is a God of mercy, a God of truth, a God of justice and a God of love. In respect to these great attributes God is unchangeable. In Malachi the following scripture is found :

For I am the Lord, I change not ; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

In one of the Psalms we read, “The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.” These references clearly indicate that God has passions.

And on the other hand, as recorded in the Scriptures, the Lord refers to Himself as a God of vengeance. I am going to quote a few words from the book of Doctrine and Covenants. Let me emphasize the importance of this record. It is a great book. It contains revelations of God in latter times, given to Joseph Smith the Prophet, and others. I refer to Section 133,

and the words there recorded are extremely important and impressive:

And it shall be said: "Who is this that cometh down from God in heaven with dyed garments; yea, from the regions which are not known, clothed in his glorious apparel, traveling in the greatness of his strength?"

And he shall say: I am he who spake in righteousness, mighty to save.

And the Lord shall be red in his apparel, and his garments like him that treadeth in the wine-vat.

And so great shall be the glory of his presence that the sun shall hide his face in shame, and the moon shall withhold its light, and the stars shall be hurled from their places.

And his voice shall be heard: I have trodden the wine-press alone, and have brought judgment upon all people; and none were with me;

And I have trampled them in my fury, and I did tread upon them in mine anger, and their blood have I sprinkled upon my garments, and stained all my raiment; for this was the day of vengeance which was in my heart.

And again, in the same great section:

And also that which was written by the prophet Malachi: For, behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven, and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

THE great mercy of the Lord, however, is shown by the fact that He will withhold His final judgment from overtaking the wicked till after the Gospel has been preached to them, the message reaching every nation, kindred, tongue and people. The responsibility of putting over the Gospel message rests with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, through its extensive missionary system.

The contrast between the destruction of the wicked and the salvation of the righteous is set forth in impressive language in Section 133 also. Consider those wonderful words of the Lord as revealed to us by His Prophet in this dispensation:

And now the year of my redeemed is come; and they shall mention the loving kindness of their Lord, and all that he has bestowed upon them according to his goodness, and according to his loving kindness, forever and ever.

In all their afflictions he was afflicted. And the angel of his presence saved them; and in his love, and in his pity, he redeemed them, and bore them, and carried them all the days of old;

Yea, and Enoch also, and they who were with him; the prophets who were before him; and Noah also, and they who were before him; and Moses also, and they who were before him;

And from Moses to Elijah, and from Elijah to John, who were with Christ in his resurrection, and the holy apostles, with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, shall be in the presence of the Lamb.

And the graves of the saints shall be opened; and they shall come forth and stand on the right hand of the Lamb, when he shall stand upon Mount Zion, and upon the holy city, the New Jerusalem; and they shall sing the song of the Lamb, day and night, forever and ever.

And for this cause, that men might be made partakers of the glories which were to be revealed, the Lord sent forth the fulness of his gospel, his everlasting covenant, reasoning in plainness and simplicity.

And then this further:

For since the beginning of the world have not men heard nor perceived

by the ear, neither hath any eye seen, O God, besides thee, how great things thou hast prepared for him that waiteth for thee.

It will be seen, from the foregoing impressive and stirring words of the revelation given to the Latter-day Saints, that in the great scheme of life there are two roads to travel, and it is the privilege of every human soul to determine, under the God-given right of his free agency, which road he will elect to follow. If he chooses the road of wickedness it will lead him down to certain destruction. If he chooses the road of righteousness it will lead him up to everlasting life in a kingdom of glory.

You who are Latter-day Saints have elected to follow the road of righteousness. So continue, but remember this: "The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but to him that endureth to the end."

In conclusion permit me, my brethren and sisters, to bear my testimony. I love the Lord God because I can comprehend Him, because I know that He has a body, parts and passions, and is in the form of man. I love Him because of the glorious attributes of His character, and, thus loving Him, I feel that I can approach Him, can worship Him acceptably and intelligently. I love Jesus Christ because He is the Son of the living God and is in the likeness of His Father. I can comprehend that. I love Him particularly for the great atonement that He wrought out through the shedding of His precious blood. He is your Saviour and He is my Saviour. I love Joseph Smith because he was and is a true prophet of God, who stands at the head of this great last dispensation. I know that this is the work of God and that it will never be overthrown.—(Excerpt from an address delivered April 7th, 1934, in the Tabernacle, at Salt Lake City, Utah.)

WE ARE GOING HOME

A FAREWELL MESSAGE

HOW strange it seems to be saying, "Good-bye, we are going home." For in reality during the past three years this country has been our home. Our work has been so regular, so routine, it has almost seemed like our very home and indeed our very business.

Nine o'clock regularly the work-day begins, opening and answering mail, writing to the missionaries and local officers, instructing them to go "here and there" and do "this and that," and answering their numerous questions, also giving them counsel and advice. Then at district conference time, which takes eight months each year as regularly as the chimes of Big Ben announce the hours of the day, we leave London each Saturday and are gone three days, or parts of three days. Saturday we always meet the elders and renew our acquaintance with them. We shake their hands, give and get greetings in return, and we feel their spirit and influence. It is glorious to spend an hour or two with them Saturday evening preceding the district conference. They are anxious to see some one they know,

some one they have met before, their Mission Parents, if you please, and how good it seems to us as well as to them. Sunday morning early we arise and prepare for the day, usually a long, very busy day. We meet and greet the saints. How pleased they are to see us, and we to see them ; it is reciprocal. All day long, one meeting after another begins and ends. It is glorious. It is wonderful. You ask if we ever tire of these meetings. We answer, "No." These conferences are very inspirational to us as well as to the saints. They are like the oasis in the desert.

While we are busy doing something we are happy, and the



PRESIDENT AND SISTER JAMES H. DOUGLAS.

saints all seem happy and take pleasure in doing their part, believing that, "he profits most who serves best." They and we make work a pleasure. No idle moments. It is a day of changes, one duty following the other in quick succession. When the last session, Sunday evening, closes, many saints come to us and say, "My, how we did enjoy it! I wish this were the beginning of conference instead of the end." But we say good-bye again with the expectation that after another six months we shall see them again.

Monday comes. It is a busy day too. This is the day we meet our missionaries, the elders, and hear their testimonies. There is an indescribable nearness about this meeting. A day of spiritual feasting. These young men open their souls to us as they would to their real parents while having a confidential chat with them, and we in turn almost feel as if they were our real sons and daughters. We surely are very near them, and feel it our duty to protect them as we would our very own. We give them fatherly and motherly advice, and general mission instructions. They listen, take down notes, absorb. Sometimes there is a mellowing of feelings. We see a few tear drops trickling down their cheeks, and occasionally ours too. Often these meetings last from four to six hours. A mingled feeling of love, joy, and

good-fellowship prevails, then we all hurry to the train and it is good-bye, good-bye for another six months. But now we are soon to say good-bye to you all indefinitely, to missionaries, saints, and friends, and also, to this delightful, beautiful country, so charming, so attractive, green everywhere, interspersed with hedges, flowers, shaded lanes, and rolling hills in the distance, and crooked streams winding their way to the lowlands. So many places that would furnish ideals for the poet, or pictures ever so sublime for the artist's brush. We surely will miss this beautiful scenery which we have seen and admired so much.

To us the British people have entwined themselves about our hearts. Our love for them is indescribable and boundless. We shall never forget the cordial greetings we have received as we have met the saints at our district conferences, and we shall always remember the affectionate farewells when bidding them good-bye.

AS we leave you dear people, and turn our faces toward our mountain home where the glistening snow-capped peaks of the Rockies will bid us welcome and loved ones, with open arms, are waiting to greet us, we earnestly pray that you will continue to be faithful, live closely to your religious teachings and convictions, be willing to carry a portion of the load and do your part, remembering that humility and obedience will bring the blessings of heaven upon you. We assure you that we shall never, while memory lasts, forget the many kindnesses extended to us by you good people.

To the elders and lady missionaries who have laboured in the mission under our direction who have gone home and to those we are leaving behind who will soon follow, we express our sincerest thanks and deepest gratitude for the help they have so generously and willingly given us, for the affectionate love they have extended to us, and for the tender care and faithfulness exhibited when we have met from time to time. These young men and women are a refined, cultured, pure-minded group, with lofty ideals of mission life, ever willing to take advice and counsel, and to carry out the wishes and instructions of the General Authorities of the Church. We commend and thank them for their excellent service. They have been diligent, faithful, prayerful, helpful, and dutiful, and have laboured incessantly and unselfishly for the work of the Lord. If they had been high salaried young men and women in the employ of some great institution or bank they could not have laboured more diligently, self-sacrificingly than they have in undertaking to spread the truths revealed in these latter days. As we say good-bye and farewell for a little season to our elders and lady missionaries and to the saints, possibly good-bye forever, as we may never see you again, we admonish all to be faithful, diligent and prayerful, and remember that "the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong, but to those who endure to the end."

May God bless you all and may peace always be in your hearts and homes. Farewell till we meet again!

JAMES H. DOUGLAS
RINTHA PRATT DOUGLAS.

A LETTER OF APPRECIATION

[EDITOR'S NOTE: *As a representative tribute to the departing mission leaders from the saints of the British Mission, the Millennium Star has been granted permission to publish this letter, written to President and Sister Douglas by President and Sister George H. Bailey of the Sheffield district. In the article that follows this, Elder Durham, in behalf of the missionaries of the British Missionaries' Association, has given expression to the esteem in which President and Sister Douglas are held by those who have laboured under their direction as missionary associates.*]

AS the hour approaches when you will bid adieu to the fair shores of old England, and turn your faces westward toward the peaceful valleys of those everlasting hills of Ephraim, and realizing that in this life we may never see you again, we feel to rejoice and give thanks to God for the privilege that has been ours to be acquainted with you noble people during the past three years. As we look back over that all too short period of our acquaintance, our souls vibrate with the power and force of the increased testimony that has come to us because of the unselfish and untiring labours that you have both so nobly performed to heal the wounds of a distracted people, by ministering unto them the healing balm of the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Throughout the entirety of the British Isles you have raised your voices in defense of the truth, and many there are in this goodly land that praise the Lord night and day for the inspiration that has come to them because of the noble service that you have rendered. Upon the walls of memories' halls your names are perpetually inscribed, and time can never erase from memory the mark of such noble service.

We pray that the hand of the Lord will uphold and sustain you as you journey over the mighty ocean and across the plains of that favoured land of Joseph, and that every joyous anticipation you have of meeting your loved ones shall be fully realized. May the autumn of your lives be full of golden hours, may health and vigour and all the things that gladden the heart be your happy lot, and may the lessons which we have learned from your lives be so appreciated that sometime, somewhere, we may have the joy of meeting you again, and may it be in that Happy Sphere if not before, where life is one unending day and where true friends shall never part.

May heaven's richest blessings always attend you is our constant prayer. And we know that in these words we express the sentiment and blessing of all the saints of the British Mission whose lives have been enriched by your friendship and by your unselfish ministry.

GEORGE H. BAILEY
ETHEL BAILEY.

A MISSIONARY TRIBUTE

APPROXIMATELY three hundred young men and at least half a dozen young women, specially called as travelling missionaries, spending what is often referred to as "the happiest

time" of their lives, have laboured in the British Mission since January, 1932. This small army in years to come, having joined the ranks of those who were before and who came after, will have great cause to remember these short missionary years.

To engage in a glorious enterprise while one is young and full of vigour is to march through the pages of history with all those others who have "fought the good fight." To be dressed in the armour of the Crusader and sally forth on a prancing charger fully armed for what may befall, should ever, yesterday or to-day, be termed "great experience." All the memories of St. George, Abinadi, John Huss, Galahad, and the other valiant souls who have stood up for great ideals kindle kindred fires in your own soul when you discover yourself in the thirst of a great cause. Boyhood and girlhood play-scenes add their glamour to the vision of youth and the wisdom of experience to weave a magic spell for good deeds.

If the impelling flow of human experience and imagination thus abduce the ready mind, what then do you suppose to be the feeling of a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints?

Add to the fervent potency of that supposition the mighty gift of Divine Faith, and have that gift daily translated into language through the means of inspired leadership!

If the tales of the champions of old ever loosed the inward fires of devoted energy, what do you suppose the day-by-day example of living those tales has meant to the cause of missionary work in Great Britain?

President James H. Douglas and Sister Rintha Pratt Douglas, Mission "parents" of nearly three hundred members of the British Missionaries' Association, who have laboured in the British Isles during the past three years, have been powerful preceptors and exemplars to their mission sons and daughters. It is one thing to read of John Taylor and Wilford Woodruff, Orson Pratt and the others; it is another to join hands with them. It is good preaching when one who has carried through the flood can make both the other side and your own clearer. It is inspirational when, with the gap bridged, you and your interpreter set out to build a modern highway together. The Douglasses have exercised their gifts of faith to make our own lives more purposefully happy. Progress in that light becomes beautiful motion.

Theirs has been the virtue of doing. But not alone has that been the charming success of the missionary leadership of President and Sister Douglas. Their service has partaken of the nature of the true Church of Christ, where the principle of "the Glory of God is Intelligence" pierces the haze of not knowing. Love—called the "highest expression of human intelligence"—has lighted the way. We feel blessed for such light. And when we bear testimony we shall remember:

"Truth is eternal, Truth is divine,
Truth in its splendour like beauty doth shine.
Truth is the armour, Truth is the shield,
Truth is the helmet, Error must yield!"

G. HOMER DURHAM
Chairman, British Missionaries' Association.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1934

EDITORIAL

LIKE THE TREAD OF FATE

THE Romans named the first month of the year after one of their gods, Janus, because he possessed two faces and looked both forward and backward. At this time it is natural for us to review the year that draws to an end, and just as natural to try to envision the twelve months ahead. It is a time of taking inventory of the accumulation of goods that we keep on shelves, and of the accumulation of habits and qualities that we have within us.

The past year has been a strange time. War clouds have hung over the earth and still threaten. The crises in Austria, Yugo-Slavia, and Hungary, the dangerous dispute between Italy and Abyssinia in east Africa, and between Japan and Russia along the Manchurian boundary, the recent impasse in the naval negotiations at London—all these indicate how near we are to general violence and the hell of war.

That some way out has been sought and found in difficult situations inspires hope. The munitions investigation and the renunciation by America of the privileges of neutrality and the strong part Great Britain has continued to play in settling world difficulties are hopeful signs of peace.

During the past year the steady progress of the Church may be gratifying to all its members. New stakes of Zion, with the wards of which they are made up, have been organized in California and New York, so that the permanent Church organization now extends across that continent from coast to coast, and from southern Canada to Northern Mexico. The building of the beautiful chapel in Washington D. C., and the organization of the stake and wards of New York are outstanding events in the growth of this latter-day work.

Both continue the story of the expansion of the Church, which one hundred and four years ago had its origin in New York state. Like the tide of migration, its course was westward until the wilderness of desert and mountain was occupied and blessed with the industry and irrigation enterprises of the saints. Then they went on to the coast and created permanent organizations in the Golden West. Now they have turned back and are establishing themselves in the east, whence they departed a century ago.

Then, they were a group of six members; now, they number 735,000. They live in more than a thousand wards, embraced in more than a hundred stakes and in missions extending in the

new world from Canada to Buenos Aires, and in the old, from Trondhjem to Cape Town. There has never been a backward step. The progress of the work has been like the tread of fate, forward and invincible.

And it has not been in numbers and territory alone that progress has been made. The Church has become the most highly organized religious body of people in all the world. Of its total membership of slightly less than three quarters of a million souls, it possesses a Sabbath School organization of 337,000 children and adults. These schools have been pronounced by the general secretary of the International Sunday School Union as the best, from the standpoint of organization, in the world.

The Mutual Improvement Associations for young men and women are made up of over a hundred thousand members. These, besides holding weekly sessions for study and recreation, follow a programme of singing, drama, dancing, basket-ball games, archery, and public speaking, offering opportunity for participation to every young member of the Church and actually engaging in preliminary and final effort, approximately thirty thousand, who, without these activities, might go through youth with no touch of these fine socializing influences.

Illustrative of the Mutual work is that of the Boy Scouts. Utah is four times as far along in membership as the quota set for the Scouts of America. There is no place in the world, including Great Britain, where this wonderful idea originated, that is so advanced in either membership or accomplishment as the Boy Scout organization of that western state.

The Relief Societies of the Church, under the mature direction of its women officers, not only add to the happiness of the people by aiding the poor, nursing the sick, striving to reclaim the delinquent, comforting the bereaved and providently gathering means for famine and emergency, but they are carrying on a system of adult education such as has perhaps no equal in the world.

The Primary, which touches the lives of the children at a tender age, is training their hands to skill, teaching leadership, guiding and stimulating their imaginations and putting a colour of romance into their living that will tinge their outlook when the sordid and disappointing things break roughly upon them.

Into the editorial office of the *Deseret News* at Salt Lake City recently walked a German author. I had the pleasure of spending several days with him, providing him with opportunity to see everybody and everything he desired in that community. He was writing a book on the relationship of spiritual and economic forces in America, and stated that in a conversation with one of the most distinguished members of President Roosevelt's cabinet, he was advised to come to Utah, as the Mormons knew more about that subject than people elsewhere.

While it is true that the wards and stakes of the Church in America have reached an admirable degree of religious and social organization, yet in the missions it is only recently that the

auxiliaries have been introduced fully. Many of our branches are weak from the drain in the past of those who emigrated to the West. Now a different situation exists, and members, remaining in the place of their conversion, we believe, will grow in numbers and spiritual vitality to an extent such as has not occurred for decades past.

The outlook for the new year and the years that succeed is therefore bright. It depends on the membership of the British Mission how the work of the Lord will succeed here among us. Let us adopt one word to characterize our attitude for the new year 1935.

Let that word be ZEAL.—JOSEPH J. CANNON.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH MISSION

AT the present time there are 94 missionaries labouring in Great Britain, and our records show we have 7,117 members of the Church residing here. Of this number 566 have been baptized during the past three years. There are 2,858 males, and 4,259 females enrolled on our records. Of the male members who hold the Priesthood, there are 3 High Priests, 1 Seventy, 298 Elders, 261 Priests, 126 Teachers, and 396 Deacons.

There are 62 Relief Society organizations. Every district except one has from one to seven fully organized Relief Societies in it, with a total enrolment of 559.

There are 69 Sunday School organizations, with an enrolled membership of 1,577, of which 1,223 are pupils, and 354 are officers and teachers. Of the membership of the Sunday Schools there are 7 Kindergarten classes, 55 Primary classes, 43 Church History classes, 5 "A" departments, 1 "B" department, 2 "C" departments, and 61 Gospel Doctrine classes, making a total of 174 classes.

There are 57 Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association organizations consisting of 117 enrolled Boy Scouts, 311 "M" Men, and 52 Adults, making a total enrollment of 480. We anticipate within another year to greatly enlarge the Boy Scout movement. We hope to have a Boy Scout troop organized within a short time in every branch of the British Mission.

There are 68 Young Women's Mutual Improvement Associations fully organized as follows: 40 Gleaner classes, 38 Bee-Hive swarms, and 22 Adult classes, with a total enrollment of 620.

A special effort has been put forth during the past two years to advance the Primary work. At the present time we have 54 Primary organizations in the Mission, all doing excellent work, with an enrollment of 1,014. This is a most excellent activity to bring together both members and non-members of the Church.

There are 43 Genealogical departments with 127 families actively engaged in searching out their own genealogy, or engaging others to do it for them. The Mission Genealogical Department acts as a clearing house for genealogical work. In this department we have a card index cabinet containing 44,000 cards, and two heavy binders, one for pedigree charts and one for family group records.

The members of the British Mission are scattered from

northern Scotland to the southern part of England, with two splendid thriving branches in Ireland and four branches in Wales. If our membership were compact and living in close proximity to each other within a reasonable area, we have sufficient numbers to form three or four thriving stakes, and if formed into stakes and wards, fully organized, the interest and influence could and would be much greater, and much more efficient work could be accomplished. However, with persistent effort and earnest work, and steady growth, eventually we hope to see fully organized stakes of Zion and wards in the British Isles.

With prejudice abating, and with favourable newspaper publicity and the influence of the Church officials and elders, a very much better understanding of the great work of our Heavenly Father is being brought to the attention of a formerly very prejudiced people. We now seem to be coming into our own. People are getting a better understanding of our aims and objects, and we reach the souls and hearts of many who formerly had a very vague, unintelligent impression of the Latter-day Saints.—
JAMES H. DOUGLAS.

TEMPLE WORK FOR BRITISH MISSION GENEALOGISTS

THE endowment work for the dead that is being done by the workers in the various Temples for the saints in the missions of Zion is reaching wonderful and gratifying proportions in the British Mission. The Genealogical department is being expanded to take care of the increased volume of sheets prepared by mission members. The sheets are being reviewed carefully and compared with pedigree charts and one-family-group records to eliminate mistakes.

Increased interest among British Mission members in Temple work for the dead is reflected in the better quality of the records sent to the Temples through the mission Genealogical department. The growth of Genealogical work in this mission is matched by new interest in other missions. This expanding mission activity is at the same time increasing the responsibility of those engaged in Temple work.

However, the saints of the stakes of Zion, appreciating this wonderful opportunity for missionary service, are cooperating splendidly in trying to keep this endowment work up to date. As an indication of the amount of work received from the missions, the thirty-three Salt Lake Temple District stakes are now in the midst of a campaign for the endowment work for approximately six thousand mission male names.

In view of this situation it is of great importance that all local and mission members and officers abide by the following instructions written by Joseph Christenson, the Recorder of the Salt Lake Temple:

“The Executive Committee of the Genealogical Society of Utah have requested that all mission saints, after first compiling their records under the same rules as saints in the stakes of Zion, prepare their own Temple sheets and send them to their own mission headquarters, from which point all such work is sent directly to the Genealogical Society for distribution to the various

Temples. Where the mission saints are in a position to do so, it is much appreciated when they send payments for endowment service required. All work that is to be placed in the Mission Community Files of the Temples for free endowment work is to be approved by the mission authorities before it is sent in. Where it is desired that work be sent to some particular Temple, this request is complied with. The Temples receiving this work return it directly to the mission headquarters concerned after completion.

“Independent genealogists preparing work for the mission saints should abide by these rulings in encouraging the saints to have their records properly prepared on pedigree charts and one-family-group records, and then routing their Temple sheets through their mission headquarters, as requested.

“Saints in the stakes of Zion are requested to consult the recorder of the Temple of their district if work from missions is sent directly to them, so that a careful check up of all mission work may be had. In view of the service that is rendered to the mission saints through the present organization of this work, it is suggested that saints in the stakes of Zion do not accept work from members in the mission fields without first consulting the officers of the Temple of their district, since their services are needed in the wards and stakes to which they belong to attend to their quota of mission work.”

Attention is again called to the fact that the same instructions issued by the Genealogical Society of Utah on the preparation and handling of records and instructions issued by the Temple authorities on the preparation of Temple sheets apply to members in the mission field, as well as members in wards and stakes. Mission saints who are preparing Temple sheets should make sure, by consulting the officers in charge of Genealogical work in their branches, that they are following the proper procedure. Advice and help in Genealogical work can also be obtained from the Mission Genealogical Department, 5 Gordon Square, London, W. C. 1.

CONWAY A. ASHTON

Mission Genealogical Supervisor.

ARE YOU IN TRAINING?

By ELDER JOHN B. STAGG

“**M**EN, are you in training? Are you fit for the work that is ahead of you? If not, you have not complied with my wishes. You have not been preparing yourselves for the work that is to come. Can you expect to win if you have not followed the code of training rules? Do you expect to run and not be weary if you have failed to take care of your bodies?”

This is usually the gist of the first lectures an athletic coach gives his charges at the beginning of a season of athletic competition. He must instill into his men the desire to be fit and strong and courageous, because such qualities make winning teams. His players must realize the necessity of obeying training rules. Without men who have strength and endurance, no team can expect or hope for success.

If we were to put those same questions to ourselves, keeping in mind the particular task that the future holds for all of us to do, what would be the answer?

Abraham Lincoln said, "I will prepare myself for the task, and when it arises I will be ready." Would that we were all of the same foresight and determination. Then, whenever the opportunity of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ arose, though it might take us to the ends of the earth bearing the message to "all nations, kindreds, tongues and peoples," we would be ready. Men would be astonished at our doctrine and say, as did the historian of old: "For he taught as one having authority, and not as the scribes. . . ."

If we are not in training, and prepared, we cannot expect to convince the world of our doctrine. We cannot expect to succeed against opposition and apathy unless we, in the strength of our knowledge and preparation, reflect the conviction that what we teach is the doctrine of God, not of man. What qualifies and empowers one to give this conviction to others? It is the same thing that prepares one for athletic competition—intelligent preparation and training.

Paul, in his exhortations to Timothy, said, "Study to shew thyself approved of God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of God." His admonition applies to us as it did to Timothy. We do not lack for source of knowledge. Perhaps God does not reveal Himself and speak to us personally as He did to Abraham, Enoch, and others of olden times, but His chosen servants in this day and age have given to the world knowledge of unlimited measure in the form of sermons and writings. We are entitled to the guidance of God in making that knowledge our knowledge. Are we going to stand idly by and let pass these opportunities for training ourselves? In axiom we are told: "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." In song we learn that, "The world has no use for a drone."

With these thoughts in mind should we not question our fitness? Should we not ask ourselves if we are in training, ready to do all that God might call us to do?

If we expect to win, we must be fit in all phases of life's game. We must be clean in body and in mind. We must treasure knowledge. We must be able to give our knowledge to the world in a way that will assure us an overwhelming victory.

A new year lies ahead of us, a new season, as it were, a new campaign. Now is the time to commence our training. Let us remember the words of Lincoln. Let us prepare ourselves for the task in order that, when it presents itself—and it will in some form or other every day that dawns—we can say: I am fit, I am in training, I am ready.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the explanatory note preceding the article, "Mormon Belief Concerning Government and Law," which appeared in the October 25th issue of the *Millennial Star*, mention was not made of the source of the quotations made therein by President Heber J. Grant. It should be understood that the quotations form a part of Section 134 of the Doctrine and Covenants.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfers—Elder Lester Gordon Park was transferred from the Norwich district to the Nottingham district on December 17th.

Appointments—Elder Ira W. Mount, of the Southwest London branch, was appointed on December 15th to serve as assistant supervisor of the British Mission Genealogical department.

Elder Lewis H. Tarr, Scoutmaster of the 37th Battersea Troop—Latter-day Saint Boy Scouts, was set apart as second assistant superintendent of the British Mission Y. M. M. I. A. by President James H. Douglas, on December 5th. The appointment of Elder Tarr fills the vacancy in the Mission Y.M.M.I.A. superintendency created by the release of Elder Andre K. Anastasiou last September, due to the press of other Church activities and obligations.

The completed Mission council of Y.M.M.I.A. officers now consists of Elder G. Homer Durham, Mission superintendent; Dr. Ray M. Russell, 1st assistant superintendent; Elder Lewis H. Tarr, 2nd assistant superintendent; and Elder John Bleakley, secretary-treasurer.

Elder Tarr has been assigned the task of developing Scouting in our branches. Dr. Russell continues to head the Adult and Community Activity Committees for the Y. M. M. I. A. Elder Bleakley has been named committee head of the Mission M Men until such a time as may warrant the election of a mission-wide M Men council. Elder Durham is in charge of the general administration of the organization. Official correspondence should be addressed to: The Mission Superintendency, Y. M. M. I. A., 5 Gordon Square, London, W. C. 1.

Doings in the Districts:—During October and November, special leadership training courses of one night's duration were held under the auspices of the Mission M. I. A. boards by Elder G. Homer Durham in Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Bradford, Burnley, Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham, and Birmingham.

Individual development in accordance with the challenge of modern Church organization for trained leaders was the theme of the discussions.

Bristol—Douglas Jenkins was baptized by President Gordon K. Ashley, and confirmed by Elder John Orval Marcroft at services held in the Swindon Baths at Swindon, December 11th.

Hull—A real variety programme, the feature of which was a balancing act by Mr. Griffiths, was presented in the Hull branch, November 17th, under the direction of the branch presidency. The evening was in aid of the building fund, and was well sponsored by the branch membership.

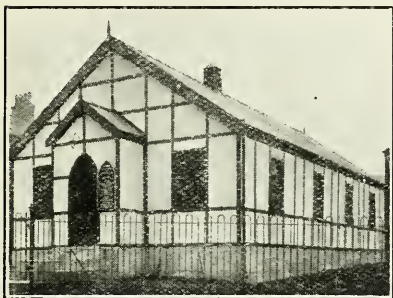
Specially lighted and richly decorated in carnival fashion, the amusement room of the new Hull chapel was the scene of a merry carnival dance on November 23rd. Many came to enter into the spirit of the gay evening, some to dance and others to enjoy the wholesome atmosphere of a Latter-day Saint social function, and to hear for the first time the story of Mormonism. Such affairs as this, which was sponsored by the M. I. A. organizations, have been the means of acquainting many in Hull with the ideals and standards of the Church.

Brother Arthur E. Ransom, assisted by Brothers J. W. Theakstone and George Walker and Sister Hilda Twidale, was in charge of a Sunday School Christmas benefit party in the Hull branch on November 29th. The programme consisted of a variety of entertaining numbers, planned especially to delight the many children who came. Proceeds of the affair will be used to provide a Christmas treat for the Sunday School scholars on Boxing Day.

Manchester—The latest accomplishment of the mission-wide movement for the bettering of branch chapel and meeting-hall facilities is reported by the Oldham branch. During September and October, intensive remodelling activities transformed the building in

which the Oldham saints have been meeting for many years into a neat-appearing and comfortable chapel that provides commodious and well-appointed facilities for the activities of the branch.

Saints in the Oldham branch have every reason to be proud of their newly renovated chapel because it has been largely through



OLDHAM CHAPEL

their own effort and sacrifice that improvement of the building has been made possible. The improvement fund was established through the generosity of Sister Sofia Allen, a member of the Manchester district, who, prior to her death in 1928, bequeathed a sum of money to the Church. The balance needed to complete the work of remodeling was subscribed by the branch membership.

The first services in the reconstructed chapel were held on Sunday, November 11th. President Benjamin R. Birchall, of the Free State district, accompanied by Sister Birchall, came from Ireland to address the meeting. The large crowd that gathered for the occasion gave promise of a new era for Latter-day Saint activities in Oldham.

Liverpool—Primary children were guests at a social afternoon in the Burnley branch recently. Approximately 75 kiddies were entertained with games and served light refreshments.

Members of the Preston Circle of the Regnal League and members of the Preston branch met together December 3rd in the Preston branch hall to exchange entertainment

programmes. Musical selections and short talks comprised the proceedings. Brother Clifford Hartley was in charge of the evening.

The Blackburn branch M. I. A. organizations sponsored a cottage social at the home of Sister Molly Taylor, Saturday, December 1st. Many saints and friends came to enjoy the evening of lively games and pleasantries.

Brother and Sister Shorrock, of the Blackburn branch, opened their home to the missionaries and to several saints and friends on December 6th for a cottage meeting. The evening was one of testimony and religious instruction. A vocal solo by Reuben Ashton and congregational singing provided suitable music during the service.

The children's Christmas fund was the beneficiary of an entertainment evening in the Blackburn branch, December 8th. Under the auspices of the Sunday School, the Blackburn Excelsis Dramatic Club presented a three-act play. Sister Alice Preston, Sunday School superintendent, was in charge of the affair.

Newcastle—On Wednesday, December 12th, at Gateshead, saints of the district gathered to show their appreciation to President Gaskell A. Romney for his splendid service during the past year. Planned and arranged for the evening, under the direction of the community activity committee, was a farewell banquet in his honour. A programme of toasts and responses, and songs provided both entertainment and opportunity for the exchange of expressions of good will and wishes.

Nottingham—At the invitation of the League of Nations Union, the members of the Derby branch participated in the joint religious services held at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, and the St. Mary's Gate Baptist Church on November 11th in honour of those who gave their lives in the Great War, and in commemoration of the Armistice.

Over sixty couples attended the Annual Harvest Festival and Ball of the Nottingham District, held in

the Hucknall branch hall, November 24th, under the direction of the supervisors of the Y. W. and Y. M. M. I. A., Emma Bradley, and Edward A. Wright. A programme of entertainment was supplied by the Melody Makers orchestra during the intermission, while refreshments were being served. Jack Limb, of the Mansfield branch, acted as Master of Ceremonies.

In the true "Spirit of the Hive," members of the "Rose Swarm" Bee-Hive group of the Eastwood branch served a "chip" supper at the home of Sister Ivy Fletcher on November 26th. Guests were members and friends of the Eastwood branch.

The funds needed for a children's party in the Eastwood branch at Christmas time were, in part, raised by the branch Primary class. On December 6th, under the direction of Sister Margaret Wild, who is the Primary Mother, the Primary members sponsored a "sausage and mash" supper, an enterprise that proved pleasingly profitable for their cause.

Sixty persons attended a branch social in the Eastwood branch hall on December 8th. The evening's programme included a play by the Primary children, "In the Court of Good Health," and a sketch, "The Matrimonial Post," staged by the Bee-Hive girls. Community singing and games conducted by Sister Ada Hill concluded the party. New

hymn books for the branch will be purchased with the money received as payment for admission to the social.

The life of Joseph Smith, and his teachings, were the subjects of discussion at a cottage meeting held in the home of Sister Ivy Barnes of the Eastwood branch, December 12th. Elder L. Dean Hickman was in charge, and Elder Joseph Stout and Elder Berry participated.

Sheffield—The Doncaster branch hall was tastefully decorated with the fruits of the season's harvest for the annual harvest festival of the branch Saturday, November 10th. A spirit of thankfulness characterized the programme and activities of the evening.

Sister Ethel Bailey entertained the members of the Sheffield branch Y. W. M. I. A. at a dinner party in her home Friday, November 23rd. The evening, following, the dinner, was spent in games and pleasantry.

The "Sunshine Swarm," Bee-Hive Girls of the Sheffield branch, held their first social gathering on November 29th. Proceeds from the affair will be used to provide the group with Bee-Hive handbooks.

The girls have completed the probationary requirements, passed their tests successfully and received their pins, and are now engaged in the fascinating task of working to fill cells as outlined for them in Bee-Hive work.

CONTENTS

Attributes of God	...	...	817	Statistical Report of the British	
We Are Going Home	...	...	819	Mission	826
A Letter of Appreciation	...	...	822	Temple Work for British Mis-	
A Missionary Tribute	...	...	822	sion Genealogists	827
Editorial:				Are You in Training?	828
Like the Tread of Fate	...	...	824	From the Mission Field	830

PUBLISHER: JOSEPH J. CANNON, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W. C. 1

EDITOR: JOSEPH F. MERRILL, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W.C. 1

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: RICHARD S. BENNETT, 5 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W.C. 1